

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION PPT-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CA-01 VO-05 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 SCS-06 SSM-03 PER-01 OC-06 CCO-00
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /075 W
-----034731 060954Z /16-64

R 031402Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5975
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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CORRECTED COPY TEXT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CPAS, CASC
SUBJECT: AMENDMENT TO US PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL TO JORDAN

REF: JERUSALEM 1206

1. REFTEL WAS DELAYED DUE TO SERVICING AND JUST RECEIVED
HERE. REQUEST REFTEL AND SUBSEQUENT ONES ON SUBJECT BE
CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL.

2. REGARDING PROCEDURE RECOMMENDED IN PARA. 3 REFTEL,
EMBASSY IS WILLING TO TRY THE IDEA OUT ON THE GOJ IF DEPART-
MENT CONCURS. WE BELIEVE ANY SUCH ACTION WOULD EVENTUALLY
BECOME KNOWN TO GOJ AND DO DAMAGE TO OUR RELATIONS IF NOT
DISCUSSED QUIETLY WITH A FEW SENIOR OFFICIALS IN ADVANCE.
IT APPEARS TO US THAT COVERING THE ISRAELI STAMP WITH A RED
PAPER WAFER SEAL WOULD CLEARLY BE SEEN AS A DEVICE
FOR CONCEALMENT OF THE ISRAELI STAMP. WE BELIEVE WE WOULD
NEED GOJ CONCURRENCE TO WINK AT THIS PRACTICE JUST AS THEY
KNOWINGLY NOW CONCUR IN WINKING AT SEPARATE PASSPORT. IN
FACT, ALIA AIRLINES HAS ATTEMPTED TO DO SOMETHING SIMILAR
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AND IT HAS NOT PREVENTED GOJ AUTHORITIES FROM DETECTING
ISRAELI STAMPS.

3. FURTHERMORE, PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN PARA. 3 INDICATING
THAT PASSPORT HAS BEEN REGISTERED WITH AMCONGEN JERUSALEM
WOULD CAUSE A PROBLEM IN SYRIA AND SOME OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES.
ACCORDING TO OUR UNDERSTANDING, ANY EVIDENCE IN A TRAVEL

DOCUMENT THAT A TRAVELER HAS BEEN IN ISRAEL AND ISRAELI-
OCCUPIED TERRITORY IS GROUNDS FOR DENYING ENTRANCE INTO
SYRIA AND SOME OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE
TO DELETE "JERUSALEM" FROM REGISTRATION JUST INDICATING
PASSPORT HAS BEEN REGISTERED AT THE "AMERICAN CONSULATE
GENERAL?" WE ALSO CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT THESE OTHER ARAB
COUNTRIES WOULD WINK AT CONCEALED ISRAELI STAMP,
ALTHOUGH RELATIVELY FEW AMCITS PROCEED ONWARD TO OTHER
ARAB COUNTRIES FROM JORDAN. SUGGESTED PROCEDURE ALSO WOULD
NOT SOLVE PROBLEM OF MULTIPLE ISRAELI STAMPS IN SOME PASS-
PORTS, BUT WE ASSUME INSUCH A CASE A NEW PASSPORT WOULD BE
REQUIRED.

4. WE HAVE RAISED ISRAELI STAMP ISSUE WITH ALIA AIRLINES
IN RECENT PAST IN AN ATTEMPT TO GET THE GOJ TO RELAX THEIR
REGULATIONS, WHICH ARE IN EFFECT HURTING JORDANIAN TOURISM.
WE HAVE NOT THUS FAR BEEN SUCCESSFUL, BUT WE ARE CONTINUING
TO PURSUE THIS SUBJECT. PROBLEM IS THAT THERE IS A JORDANIAN
LAW ON THE BOOKS WHICH BARS ENTRY TO PERSONS WITH ISRAELI
STAMP IN THEIR PASSPORT.

5. FOR DEPARTMENT: PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU CONCUR IN OUR
PROPOSING CONGEN JERUSALEM PROCEDURE IN REFTEL TO
GOJ AS SUGGESTED HERE.
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: AMENDMENTS, PASSPORTS, TRAVEL CONTROLS
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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